

House Armed Services Committee

DEMOCRATS

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Ike Skelton, Ranking Member

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Contact:

Loren Dealy,
HASC Democratic Communications
(202) 226-6339

Courtney Littig,
Rep. Taylor
(202)-225-5772

Projection Forces Subcommittee Addresses Defense Authorization Bill FY06

Washington D.C.—Today the House Armed Services Committee Subcommittee on Projection Forces considered its portion of H.R.1815, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006.

"Projecting a strong naval presence around the world is crucial to maintaining a strong defense against potential overseas threats," said **Rep. Gene Taylor (MS)**. "The ability of our military to maintain a robust and capable fleet is extremely important."

"In this bill, we continue to buy much needed vessels in a cost-effective way, including two additional DDG destroyers and a T-AKE supply ship, increasing the President's original budget request from four to seven ships," **Taylor** added.

"I am pleased that we have included \$418 million worth of funding to begin construction of the new LHA-R," **Taylor** continued. "This ship will greatly enhance the capabilities of our Navy, and the cost cap on its production will ensure that funds for its construction are monitored and spent wisely in the future."

"This legislation includes provisions requiring the Navy to develop a next-generation submarine incorporating cutting-edge technologies," noted **Rep. James Langevin (RI)**, "which will allow us to maintain our nation's critical submarine design capability."

"Additionally, by continuing to produce the current Virginia-class subs without exceeding the FY06 cost estimates, we will be able to provide for the future needs of our Navy in a fiscally responsible manner," concluded **Langevin**.

Information is not officially included in the final version of H.R.1815 until passed by the full House Armed Services Committee on May 18th.

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